IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (New): A catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid by oxidizing an olefin or α,β-unsaturated aldehyde with molecular oxygen in a liquid phase, comprising a precious metal supported on activated carbon having a specific surface area of 100 m^2/g or more and 1300 m^2/g or less.

Claim 14 (New): The catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 13, wherein the precious metal is one or more selected from a group consisting of palladium, platinum, rhodium, ruthenium, iridium, gold, silver, and osmium.

Claim 15 (New): The catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 13, wherein an amount of loading of the precious metal is in a range of 0.1 to 40 wt% with respect to the activated carbon before loading.

Claim 16 (New): The catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 13, which is a catalyst for preparation of acrylic acid from propylene or acrolein, or a catalyst for preparation of methacrylic acid from isobutylene or methacrolein.

Claim 17 (New): The catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 13, wherein the specific surface area of the activated carbon is 100 m^2/g or more and 1000 m^2/g or less.

Claim 18 (New): The catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 17, wherein the precious metal is one or more selected from the group consisting of palladium, platinum, rhodium, ruthenium, iridium, gold, silver, and osmium.

Claim 19 (New): The catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 17, wherein an amount of loading of the precious metal is in a range of 0.1 to 40 wt% with respect to the activated carbon before loading.

Claim 20 (New): The catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 17, which is a catalyst for preparation of acrylic acid from propylene or acrolein, or a catalyst for preparation of methacrylic acid from isobutylene or methacrolein.

Claim 21 (New): A preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 13, comprising selecting activated carbon having a specific surface area of 100 m^2/g or more and 1300 m^2/g or less and loading the precious metal on the activated carbon.

Claim 22 (New): The preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 21, comprising reducing a precious metal compound corresponding to the precious metal to be loaded on the activated carbon with a reducing agent in the presence of the activated carbon.

Claim 23 (New): The preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 22, comprising adding the reducing agent to a

solution of the precious metal compound in which the activated carbon is dispersed, to reduce the precious metal compound, wherein the precious metal is loaded on the activated carbon.

Claim 24 (New): The preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 23, wherein the precious metal compound is a chloride, oxide, acetate, nitrate, sulfate, tetra-ammine complex or acetylacetonate complex of the precious metal.

Claim 25 (New): The preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 23, wherein a concentration of the precious metal compound in the solution is in a range of 0.1 to 20 wt%.

Claim 26 (New): A preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 17, comprising selecting activated carbon having a specific surface area of 100 m^2/g or more and 1000 m^2/g or less and loading the precious metal on the activated carbon.

Claim 27 (New): The preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 26, comprising reducing a precious metal compound corresponding to the precious metal to be loaded on the activated carbon with a reducing agent in the presence of the activated carbon.

Claim 28 (New): The preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 27, comprising adding the reducing agent to a

solution of the precious metal compound in which the activated carbon is dispersed, to reduce the precious metal compound, wherein the precious metal is loaded on the activated carbon.

Claim 29 (New): The preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 28, wherein the precious metal compound is a chloride, oxide, acetate, nitrate, sulfate, tetra-ammine complex or acetylacetonate complex of the precious metal.

Claim 30 (New): The preparation method of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 28, wherein a concentration of the precious metal compound in the solution is in a range of 0.1 to 20 wt%.

Claim 31 (New): A preparation method of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid, comprising oxidizing an olefin or α,β-unsaturated aldehyde with molecular oxygen in a liquid phase in the presence of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 13 to prepare the α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid.

Claim 32 (New): A preparation method of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid, comprising oxidizing an olefin or α,β-unsaturated aldehyde with molecular oxygen in a liquid phase in the presence of the catalyst for preparation of an α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid according to claim 17 to prepare the α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acid.